

the circumstances outlined in paragraph (d) of this section.

(11) Outside the 50 United States, commanding officers of operational units may either approve claims and direct payment by the disbursing officer serving the command or forward claims to the appropriate naval medical command in paragraphs (b)(1) through (c)(9) of this section. This is a local policy decision to enhance the maintenance of good public relations.

(12) The appropriate command in paragraphs (b)(1) through (c)(9) of this section for care rendered aboard commercial vessels en route to a location within the geographic areas listed.

(13) The commanding officer authorizing care in geographical areas not specifically delineated elsewhere in this section.

(d) *The Commander, Naval Medical Command (MEDCOM-333), Navy Department, Washington, DC 20372-5120.* Under the following circumstances, responsibility is vested in COMNAVMEDCOM for adjudication of claims:

(1) For reservists who receive treatment after completion of their active duty or inactive duty training as prescribed in § 732.12(b).

(2) For care rendered in Mexico to personnel stationed outside the areas of responsibility of the Southeast and Southwest Regions.

(3) For care rendered to members stationed in or passing through countries in Central and South America.

(4) For outpatient care rendered NATO active duty members.

(5) When Departmental level review is required prior to approval, adjudication, or payment. These claims:

(i) Will be considered on appeal.

(ii) Must be forwarded by the member through the adjudication authority chain of command (In instances of unusual or controversial denial of claims, the adjudication authority may forward claims to COMNAVMEDCOM on appeal, via the chain of command, with notification to the member.).

(6) For all inpatient and outpatient care of active duty Navy and Marine Corps members stationed in the United States who receive care in Canada.

§ 732.21 Medical board.

When adjudication authorities uncover conditions which may be chronic or otherwise potentially disabling, they should make a determination (with help from appropriate clinical specialists) as to the need for a medical board. Chapter 18 of MANMED and Medical Disposition and Physical Standards Notes, available from COMNAVMEDCOM (MEDCOM-25), provide guidance.

(a) Chronic conditions requiring a medical board include (but are not limited to):

- (1) Arthritis,
- (2) Asthma,
- (3) Diabetes,
- (4) Gout,
- (5) Heart disease,
- (6) Hypertension,
- (7) Peptic ulcer disease,
- (8) Psychiatric conditions, and
- (9) Allergic conditions requiring desensitization.

(b) Other potentially disabling or chronic conditions may be referred to a medical board by the adjudication authority with the concurrence of an appropriate naval clinical specialist and the commander of the regional medical command.

§ 732.22 Recovery of medical care payments.

Adjudication authorities must submit evidence of payment to the action JAG designee per chapter 24 of the Manual of the Judge Advocate General (JAGMAN), in each instance of payment where a third party may be legally liable for causing the injury or disease treated, or when a Government claim is possible under workers compensation, no-fault insurance, or under medical payments insurance (all automobile accident cases).

(a) To assist in identifying possible third party liability cases, item 16 of each NAVMED 6320/10 must be completed whenever benefits are received in connection with a vehicle accident. Adjudication authorities should return for completion, as applicable, any claim received without item 16 completed.

(b) The front of a NAVJAG Form 5890/12 (Hospital and Medical Care, 3rd